

WEATHER FORECAST.  
Cloudy to-day, probably showers; to-  
morrow generally fair; moderate winds.  
Highest temperature yesterday, 64; lowest, 54.  
Detailed weather reports on editorial page.

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PRICE TWO CENTS.

# SWANN CROOKS AND WHOED FIGHT STOCK SHARPERS; \$200,000,000 IN OIL FRAUDS

Drops Assistant Prosecutor  
Brogan, Foe of Wall  
Street Frauds.

CROOKS ARE HAPPY

Dismissed Official Says  
Chief Refused Help and  
Transferred Him.

BANKERS ARE PERTURBED

Commercial Frauds Bureau  
Quiescent While Fake Pro-  
motors Thrive.

Edward S. Brogan, Deputy Assistant District Attorney, who for a year tried to prosecute bucket shops and promoters of shady stock companies, has been dropped from the staff of the District Attorney. It has been known for some time that he and Judge Swann had not been on the best of terms, and none of Brogan's recommendations for the effective prosecution of his work was acted upon. Some time ago he offered his resignation because of lack of assistance from his superiors, but Swann refused to accept it and Brogan was assigned to other work until last Monday, when his name was left off the payroll.

Judge Swann was not at his office yesterday and no one could be found there who had seen Brogan's letter of resignation. Alfred J. Talley, Assistant District Attorney, who is in charge of the office in Judge Swann's absence, said he knew nothing of Brogan's resignation, but the notation on the payroll showed clearly that he was no longer on the staff.

Frauds Bureau Dormant.

Edwin P. Kilroe, Assistant District Attorney, and Theodore L. Waugh, Assistant District Attorney, were appointed by Judge Swann to succeed Brogan in April, when he was assigned to other work. But Kilroe went on a vacation immediately and Waugh has been busy on other work, so that the Commercial Frauds Bureau, as it is known, virtually has ceased to function, much to the regret of business men and legitimate brokers, who were interested in seeing its work go on.

Brogan himself was not surprised that he had been dropped and said yesterday that he had expected it and had foreseen failure for the bureau ever since he found his recommendations to Judge Swann and his appeal for assistance were made the work of the bureau effective had been ignored.

"When I was removed from the direction of the Commercial Frauds Bureau in April I asked Judge Swann to accept my resignation," said Mr. Brogan. "He did not do so, and for personal reasons I did not press the matter at that time and took up my office as usual. I was not in sympathy. I felt that my greatest usefulness would be in continuing the work, as I thought I had shown the necessity for a vigorous prosecution of all crooked stock brokerage houses and promoters.

"I went on the staff for the express purpose of organizing the bureau. In February, 1918, and in a short time was overwhelmed with complaints from those who had suffered from the operations of these bucket shops. I saw that to do any effective work I would need assistance, and in May I made a report to Judge Swann, asking that accountants and investigators be assigned to my office so that I might make some headway in the mass of stuff that was coming in." In that report Brogan said:

"Aside from performing the duty of enforcing the law it will bring to the District Attorney's office the everlasting gratitude of a defrauded public, of every honest broker, stock salesman and legitimate promoter. If properly directed it will be successful, because it has the support of practically every Stock Exchange house, every legitimate broker and banking association, and of the press.

"They are only too glad to cooperate with you in clearing the commercial atmosphere and making New York a safe place for the investment of money. Many of the grand jurors have commented favorably upon our spring drive on bucket shops. Results can only be accomplished by organizing and making your Commercial Frauds Bureau with a staff consisting in the beginning of a stenographer, an accountant and, if possible, one or two investigators.

Tells of Crooks' Boasts.

"It is almost impossible for one man to attend to the correspondence. I have asked you several times to spend five minutes with Mr. Talley in my office, because I know you will realize for yourself the extent and importance of the investigation, and that you will then give me the assistance I need.

"These investigations are pushed vigorously by the public and the press may be safely said to be the motive force in the investigation. In fact, the only way of clearing up the commercial atmosphere is by the action of the commercial crooks who have been operating in the city for the past five years.

"Every day I hear rumors that I have been called off by the District Attorney. Some of these crooks are boasting that the District Attorney has refused to give me any assistance to conduct the investigation and that they made good their threat to deprive me of the services of an investigator who was thoroughly familiar with their methods and who rendered valuable services during the first month of my investigation.

A conference with representatives of the New York Stock Exchange ought to be arranged without delay to decide upon a plan of campaign. They will no doubt supply the sinews of war by appropriating a fund to defray the expenses of the investigation."

This report and the recommendations were ignored by Judge Swann. Mr. Brogan said yesterday, and he received no answer. In fact, he was told that it was impossible for him to do so without

## SHARE FAKERS SET A RECORD

Oil Swindles Exceed Average  
Yearly Loss in All Questionable Enterprises.

PUBLIC AN EASY VICTIM  
Between 4,000 and 5,000 Promotion Companies Formed  
This Year Alone.

Hundreds of thousands of foolish persons will remember the year 1918 as the year in which they were "stung in oil." At the present rate the estimate of investment bankers that credulous American investors lose \$200,000,000 annually in questionable promotion enterprises threatens to be surpassed in oil alone.

When a rocket goes up and scatters its beautiful fiery stars there is left at least a charred stick for children to play with. So a great proportion of the men and women now buying oil stock on the word of strangers who ought to be in jail will be able in the future to fondle splendidly engraved sheets of parchment paper which will be listed as "cats and dogs" when they die.

And when the wild speculative oil boom now raging blows up into fragments too small to put into a sack, the honest oil companies and honest oil brokers will continue serenely on their legitimate way of enterprise and heartily will be glad that the parasites who capitalized the honest effort of others and made swindlers' money out of human cupidity have jumped to the latest case, whatever it may be, and left the old business to follow its natural course.

All in the Oil Game Now.

The bubble blowers of other days, the moonshine promoters, fly by night brokers, bucket shippers, professional gamblers, "hot" green goods and gold brick and shell game men, ex-prize fighters, ex-pickpockets, the land under water salesmen, the financial swashbuckler and financial panhandler, the cheap boosters of wildcat gold and copper mines, the exploiters of phony "motors" and aircraft securities, the bookmaker spurned from race tracks, the same old irresponsible gang that is always found playing for suckers with the latest bait of the moment, where are they now? In oil. It is to line the pockets of such worthies as these that the public, inflamed by the vision of fortunes really made by a comparative handful of men out of the oil industry, is forking over a large part of the cash that is being exchanged for oil securities.

Mail trains groan under the weight of their "literature." Newspapers that never utter a word about their own crazy advertisements. Their chattering salesmen are going from door to door in city and farming communities enticing them to buy the latest "hot" stock. In return for their efforts they receive marvelous artists' dreams of derelict derrick, gusher after gusher, spreading as far as the eye can reach.

Telephone Used for Speed.

The mails are too slow, the house to house salesman is too slow. A new method, the "telephone follow up," is devised to spread the tidings of great riches and of the stock that was \$2 yesterday and is \$4 to-day and will be \$8 to-morrow, and hurry, hurry, hurry, get in before it's too late!

The widow's mite is none too small to be angled for, though it is to be suspected that the poor and the unsophisticated are by no means the only victims for as a man who has been watching the game said to THE SUN: "You can't point to any particular class as being carried away by the oil excitement. It was wasted on them, but the way the poor people are buying these stocks are the poor, the moderately well to do and the rich. As the last named can afford it, I don't know that any sympathy need be wasted on them, but the way the poor are getting trimmed is simply a fright."

The fact may be instanced that the Greek newspaper *Atlatiss* recently invited its readers to report to it their experiences with oil stocks, and in the circle of its comparatively small circulation got 500 replies from those who said they had been swindled. "What does it exist and never will exist, dry wells, wildcat wells, wells in good territory and bad territory, expectations and no expectations, leaves near famous gushers in the sense that both are in the same State, inasmuch as they have as much chance of producing oil as Stika has of growing bananas—all are being indiscriminately capitalized at millions of dollars and stock of fictitious prices is being fed to the public by promoters and salesmen who get bonuses, commissions and have no interest whatever in seeing that the property, if it exists, is developed.

Swindles by the Thousand.

Nobody knows how many oil companies have sprung up in the United States in the past year. The guess is between 4,000 and 5,000. Not more than 10 per cent of them, at the outside, have any purpose except to sell stock, or have the backing to invite the attention of the judicious investor. They are out to get that part of the public which has lost its head over the successes that some few men have made in the highly speculative business of finding treasure concealed beneath the earth's surface and getting it out after they have found it.

The "sky" is swayed or ignored, in New York, which has no such law and

## HOUSE PASSES DEFICIENCY BILL

Republicans Rush Measure  
Providing War Risk Funds  
and Pensions.

BLAME LAID ON WILSON  
Delay in Calling Congress and  
His Absence Hold Up  
1,325,000 Checks.

Special Despatch to THE SUN.  
WASHINGTON, May 22.—The House today passed the urgent deficiency appropriation bill, carrying about \$39,000,000 for the Bureau of War Risk Insurance, \$3,000,000 to pay June pensions of civil war soldiers and nearly \$3,000,000 for administration of the War Insurance Bureau. The bill was passed without a roll call and is the first of the supply measures which failed to go through the last Congress to be put through under the Republican rule.

In the brief debate that preceded passage Republican leaders took pains to point out that the failure of the Democrats to pass this legislation means that hundreds of thousands of families of soldiers will get no allowance checks due in May, and possibly in June and July.

President Wilson was blamed for not having called Congress together earlier to care for this situation, and his absence in Paris was referred to as the possible cause of still further delay in taking care of the families of the nation's fighting men.

Representative Good (Iowa), chairman of the Appropriations Committee, said that on May 1 there were 700,000 allowance checks that could not be sent out because of lack of funds amounting to \$13,107,600; that on June 1 there will be about 600,000 more such checks, amounting to about \$11,505,000, and that those due on July 1 would swell the total to \$15,418,000. The Pension Bureau on June 4, he said, would be unable to mail its customary 35,000 vouchers carrying \$3,000,000 to civil war pensioners unless the bill has become law.

"This appropriation would have to be passed in the form of a bill, I take it," suggested Representative Mann.

"And," continued Mr. Mann, "in order to become a law it must receive the signature of the President of the United States, or at least be presented to the President."

"Yes," agreed Mr. Good.

The President cannot sign the bill unless he is either sent to him in Paris or he comes here to sign it," suggested Mr. Mann. "Does the gentleman know whether it is safe, if the bill is passed either a week or ten days, to send it to the President, or whether it will be held until the President returns? Can any one predict now how soon the President can return? I will say to the gentleman I have no objection to the consideration of the bill, but I see no possible way that this appropriation can be effective before the middle of June."

First—It has been demonstrated that the present bill design of the NC type is well suited to withstand the pounding of the sea, as is shown by the fact that the NC-3, commanded by Commander Towers, lived through a heavy storm of more than two days on the surface.

Second—The flights have shown the practicability and necessity of developing the multiple engine plane.

Third—The importance of aerial navigation over the sea has been shown by actual experience for the first time.

Navy to Press Programme.

These points will have their effect upon the navy's air programme, which is henceforth to be pressed.

Secretary Daniels held a conference this afternoon with his bureau chiefs on the subject of the rigid or Zeppelin type of aircraft, which is to form another feature of the general programme.

There are to be four lines of action to be followed by the navy in the aerial field. These, in the order of their importance, are, first, the development of both seaplanes and lighter than air craft for use with the fleet; second, general experimental work, including attempts to cover long distances at sea; third, the development of the rigid airship; and, fourth, the continuance of aerial work at the coastal stations.

The Navy Department has come to the conclusion that the rigid airship is preferable to any other type of dirigible for naval warfare. This conclusion is reached despite the recent non-stop flight

of the number of dead could not be estimated for some time by firemen who began to extricate dead and wounded from the debris hastily to avoid incineration. The injured were rushed to hospitals and homes as rapidly as volunteers with automobiles could be mustered.

So severe was the explosion that persons who were thrown from chairs. The cause of the accident could not be determined, but it is thought to have been due to either a defective boiler or spontaneous combustion.

Men covered with starch were taken from the ruins by their comrades and many thrilling rescues were made. Some of the victims were drunk and did not know what had happened. Every window in the central part of the city was broken. Chimneys caved in on families at the supper table and patients in the dining rooms of hotels were thrown from their chairs. A Chicago travelling man dining at the Magnolia Hotel had his nose cut almost off by broken glass.

The front of the City Hall and the Y. M. C. A. Building were shattered. Ticket sellers in motion picture theatres were injured by falling glass.

## NC-4 DELAYED BY ROUGH SEA, MAY GO TO-DAY

Read Fears to Attempt  
Flight in Face of High  
Waves and Head Winds.

NAVY IS WELL PLEASED

Roosevelt Gives Summary  
of Benefits Derived From  
the Experiment.

PROGRAMME IS OUTLINED

Rigid Dirigibles Believed Best  
and Ships of That Type Will  
Be Developed.

### Northcliffe's \$50,000 Goes to Kin of Aviators

Special Wireless Despatch to THE SUN from  
the London Times Service.  
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LONDON, May 22.—Lord Northcliffe to-night authorized the *Daily Mail* to pay Mrs. Hawker \$50,000 for the benefit of herself and baby daughter, and to Commander Grieve's next of kin in the proportion which the airman and his navigator had agreed to share the prize money between them.

The *Daily Mail* flight conditions and the old prize money are still open to world competitors.

WASHINGTON, May 22.—Rough seas of the kind that battered and sank the NC-1 and put the NC-3 out of commission today prevented the NC-4, surviving American naval seaplane, from starting from Ponta Delgada on the 800 mile flight to continental Europe.

Although greatly disappointed by the delay, following as it does the loss of twenty-four hours on account of engine trouble, Lieutenant-Commander A. C. Read is determined not to take off on the flight to Lisbon under weather conditions which might imperil the safety of his craft. He realizes, as do all the naval officers here anxiously following the transatlantic flight, that on his judgment and upon the motors of the NC-4 rests the success or failure of the attempt of America to be first across the ocean in the air.

No chances will be taken beyond the normal hazards which accompany a flight of 800 nautical miles across open seas.

While the interest of naval officers, particularly those connected with aviation, naturally centres at the present time on the surviving seaplane at Ponta Delgada, the lessons learned so far in the transatlantic flight have not been neglected.

Franklin D. Roosevelt, Assistant Secretary of the Navy, summarized the results so far as follows:

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# REPARATION TERMS TO BE RELAXED; GERMAN COUNTER OFFERS A WAITED; BERLIN PLANS TO INSIST ON 14 POINTS

## WOULD ABANDON ARMY FOR SHIPS

Germany Also Ready to Give  
Up Navy Programme to Get  
Back Merchant Marine.

CLINGS TO UPPER SILESIA

Balks at Assuming Guilt of  
War—Counter Proposals  
on Reparations.

By KARL H. VON WIEGAND.  
Staff Correspondent of THE SUN.

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BERLIN, May 20 (delayed).—Germany's complete answer to the allied peace terms received its last touches, so far as Berlin is concerned, at a lengthy Cabinet meeting yesterday and will go to Versailles to-day or to-morrow. The completed draft agreed upon between the Cabinet and the Versailles delegation will have some minor changes, either by Count Brockdorff-Rantzau himself or in accordance with telegrams from Berlin; but in the main the answer is completed.

At times during the discussion sharp differences developed over counter proposals suggested by Germany's so-called "strong" men and the compromisers. The latter were in favor of going almost to the limit in order to bring about peace and to prove to the world that Germany desires to go as far as it is physically possible to prove to the world that the nation sincerely desires peace.

In the introduction to her answer Germany takes the position that President Wilson's fourteen points and his speeches relating thereto, together with the exchange of notes in October and November of last year, constitute an agreement binding both sides, and establishes for Germany a certain status entitling her to the right of peace by negotiations, the violation of which would be contrary to international law.

Larger Army Is Wanted.

It appears that the proposition to reduce the army to 70,000 within two years met the gravest opposition. It is reported that a compromise was reached respecting the matter of universal service, but some insisted on the right to maintain a volunteer army of not to exceed 350,000 for one year, declaring that such an army was necessary to establish stability.

A motion to give up the entire army and to renounce the naval programme is said to have been adopted, but it appears a counter proposal will demand the return of a large part of the German mercantile marine. It is also said that Germany agrees to obligate herself to build ships for the Allies, beginning with 100,000 tons the first year and increasing until the output reaches 300,000 tons annually for five years.

It is said that an agreement was reached to accept disarmament on all except the eastern frontier, on condition that the principle of self-determination would be applied. It was stipulated, however, that Rantzau should hold out to the last on the question of giving up Upper Silesia.

The chapter on reparations is said to have been rejected and counter proposals made; also a demand for a mixed commission to determine the exact damage and the amount of reparation.

Determine Blame for War.

Prof. Hans Delbrueck and Count Max Montgelas, who left for Versailles yesterday, are two members of the commission who are delegates to determine the guilt for the war. The third member of the mission is Prof. Weber. They will discuss this matter with Rantzau and frame Germany's demand for opening the question of guilt before a competent court.

The discussions over this point were extremely bitter, with even the democratic elements supporting Rantzau in his contention that it would be to the eternal national dishonor of Germany to subscribe to the admission that Germany was solely guilty for causing the war.

The report that new documentary evidence had been found in Vienna, throwing a more favorable light on the action of Bethmann-Hollweg and Von Jagow with respect to Austria's ultimatum to Serbia, proves to have been without foundation.

The protest storm is still raging in the German mental forest, probably reaching its height yesterday, when hundreds of meetings were held in all parts of the country.

Buy a Baby Bond  
Our Booklet tells all  
\$100 Investments. Send for it.  
John Muir & Co., 61 N. W. Ave., Ado.

## German Cabinet to Remain Even if It Rejects Terms; Will Resist Only Poles

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN from the London Times Service.  
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THE HAGUE, May 22.—Your correspondent learns from Berlin, from the immediate entourage of Prime Minister Scheidemann, that the German Cabinet in the event of rejection of the peace terms does not contemplate resignation. On the contrary it is under obligation to remain at its post, since it believes itself to enjoy the confidence of the majority.

Should the Entente make a military advance in the west no resistance whatever will be offered. All available forces will be employed, however, against an advance of the Poles in the east. What ever happens, upper Silesia will be defended by force of arms.

Threats are heard from Pan-German quarters that if the Government has anything to do with extraditing the ex-Kaiser from Holland, things will be published which will be very detrimental to Prime Minister Scheidemann, and which date from Scheidemann's period of office under the Kaiser.

## EXPLANATION IS ASKED OF ITALY

Big Three Send Note About  
Landing of Troops on Tur-  
kish Territory.

"SCENE" IN THE COUNCIL

Greek Premier Leaves, Over  
Wilson's Protest, Before Or-  
lando Will Unbend.

By the Associated Press.

PARIS, May 22.—It has been learned in trustworthy quarters that the United States, Great Britain and France have united in sending a note to Italy requesting an explanation of the landing of Italian forces in Turkey.

Premier Orlando is said to have made a reply to the Council of Four after a sharp personal incident during which he objected to the presence of Premier Venizelos of Greece. The latter retired from the meeting.

The Italians landed forces at Adalia, Budrum and Makri during the period when Premier Orlando and Foreign Minister Sonnino had withdrawn from the Peace Conference, making the landings without notice to the Allies.

The nature of the Italian reply and whether it was acceptable to the senders of the note was not known this forenoon.

Premier Venizelos was invited to attend a recent meeting of the Council of Four at the subject of Smyrna was under consideration, because of the Greek interest in Smyrna, near which an Italian landing was made. When Premier Orlando entered the council chamber President Wilson, putting aside the usual diplomatic formality, addressed him directly, asking what the answer was to the note inquiring as to the landing of Italian forces in Turkey.

Orlando Shows Feeling.

The Italian Premier, with apparent feeling, replied that he was prepared to explain to the Council of Four, but not with outsiders present. Premier Venizelos at once offered to withdraw, but President Wilson is said to have insisted upon his remaining. Premier Orlando declined to proceed, however, until Premier Venizelos withdrew.

The members of the Council later expressed their regret to the Greek Premier for the incident.

The sending of the note and the incident which grew out of it were not known outside the immediate circles of the Council, where they aroused the liveliest interest. It is thought they may have contributed to the decision of Premier Orlando to go to the French Italian frontier yesterday for a conference with some of his Ministers. The Italian Premier returned to Paris to-day from this conference.

Premier Orlando of Italy returned to Paris to-day from a meeting of the Italian Cabinet held at Oulu, near Turin. The Cabinet, it is said, asserted its support of the Premier.

The reported Italian incident apparently complicates the Turkish problem, already a vexed one, with which the Peace Conference heads have been struggling for some little time past.

In evident anticipation of a Greek mandate to administer the Smyrna district, allied forces were landed at Smyrna last Thursday, meeting with considerable resistance from the Turks but making themselves masters of the city. Italian troops were reported to have participated to some extent in this landing. According to a Paris despatch of May 20, however, the Italians had previously landed forces at Adalia, on the southern coast of Asia Minor, and likewise disembarked troops at Budrum, ninety-six miles southeast of Smyrna, and at Makri, on the Gulf of Makri, in the vilayet of Smyrna.

WASHINGTON, May 22.—Precaution to protect Italian interests in the western Mediterranean in the event of failure in the peace negotiations is believed in Italian circles here to account for the landing of Italian troops recently at Budrum and Adalia.

GERMANS OFF FOR SPA.

Peace Delegates to Hold Confer-  
ence With Government.

By the Associated Press.

PARIS, May 22.—Count von Brockdorff-Rantzau, accompanied by several of the German peace delegates, has again gone to Spa.

He will consult with representatives of the German Government there.

## U. S. MEN AWAIT 'ON TO BERLIN'

Demobilization on the Rhine  
Halts and Soldiers on Way  
Home Recalled.

MORE GUNS CROSS RIVER

Pershing Ready to Start for  
Treves if Germans Re-  
fuse to Sign Treaty.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.  
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PARIS, May 22.—For perhaps the last time the American Expeditionary Force awaits the zero hour, though there is scarcely an American soldier or officer who really expects to go over the top again.

The wheels of demobilization on the Rhine have been stopped and in some cases reversed, so that if the advance to Berlin that was planned last summer for the spring of 1919 really starts all will be ready. Gen. Pershing remains in Paris ready to start for Treves and large bodies of troops that had started home have been recalled.

It had been planned that the First and Second Divisions should depart from the Rhine early in June, leaving the Third to clean up. The Fifth had orders to leave some units there.

These orders have been cancelled and extra artillery has been moved across the Rhine. Everything is in readiness in case action is necessary, but the army's general staff does not believe it will be.

The Germans at Coblenz are indifferent. They are going to be under foreign domination for ten years anyway, but profess to believe that their one great desire is to get peace.

The Americans have their hearts set on going home, but they would rather occupy the whole of Germany than to remain inactive. They are tired of staying in one place. They don't expect to have so tight, but are convinced that if they have to advance it will be a picnic.

LIGGETT AND HINES

Called to Coblenz

Trip to London Halted—  
Saucy Germans Warned.

By the Associated Press.

COBLENZ, May 21 (delayed).—Lieut. Gen. Hunter Liggett, commander of the Army of Occupation, and Major-General John Hines, commander of the Third Corps, who were on their way to London, were recalled to-day to Coblenz by orders from American General Headquarters.

Nine hundred motor trucks began to move Tuesday midnight from west of the Rhine to the bridgehead area. The trucks are being distributed to various points of vantage among the troops holding the zone east of the Rhine should the occasion arise for the Americans to start an advance.

The recall of Gen. Liggett and Hines, who were on their way to London, was the first step in the new programme for the American army in the event the Germans do not accept the peace treaty.

The composite regiment of the Third Army, which was organized for participation in the Empire Day festivities in London, in which Gen. Liggett and Hines were also to take part, is being held in Coblenz because of the new turn in the peace situation. The regiment may be sent to London and Brussels as intended if the peace treaty is signed within the next few weeks.

Germans Complain of U. S. Trucks.

The movement of the U. S. trucks continued throughout Wednesday and most of Wednesday night and was the topic of conversation among the German civilians in Coblenz. Many civilians complained that the trucks, as they rumbled across the Rhine bridges at night, disturbed their sleep.

The trucks, which have a capacity of from thirty to forty soldiers, are fully equipped. They were taken to concentration points of the two divisions on the east bank of the Rhine.